

to the first of what would become 10 consecutive terms as President of the Milwaukee County Labor Council.

Throughout his service as Labor Council President, Tom Parker has been a vigorous advocate for Milwaukee area workers and their families and a gifted spokesman for organized labor. He has helped the Labor Council to work better, communicate more productively with the community and within its own membership, and respond more quickly and effectively to individual challenges and broader economic and policy changes.

Tom's public service is not limited strictly to the responsibilities of organized labor. He currently serves as a member of the Greater Milwaukee Committee, one of the area's leading civic organizations, as well as on the Aurora Health Care Board of Directors and the City of Milwaukee's Ethics Committee. Tom has also served on the boards of directors of some of Milwaukee's most active and enduring institutions, including the International Institute, the Villa Terrace Art Museum, Community Care of Milwaukee, the Milwaukee Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, and the American Red Cross.

Mr. Speaker, I have always respected Tom Parker's keen understanding of the impact the issues and policies at hand have on the people they affect. He has always remembered that a contract negotiation or a legislative decision is not an abstract, but a very tangible act with very real consequences for workers and their families. He has approached all of his public activities in this same spirit, and I am proud to count myself among the many who have benefitted from his example.

As Tom's family, friends, union brothers and sisters, and admirers prepare to celebrate his career, I am honored to offer my congratulations on a job well done, my thanks for a lifetime of service, and my very best wishes to Tom Parker.

**RECOGNIZING RENEWAL WEEK
AND THE VALUE OF COMMUNITY
BASED PROGRAMS LIKE CHAR-
ACTER COUNTS IN THE FIGHT
AGAINST JUVENILE CRIME**

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, this week is Renewal Week. A week that we in the Renewal Alliance have set aside to remind our Colleagues and America about the value of private, community, and faith based organizations. Our nation has awakened this year to the reality of a cultural breakdown, where traditional values of respect and responsibility have often been replaced by indifference and apathy. But instead of just looking to Washington for a short term band-aid, I encourage everyone to help us look for a comprehensive solution. Our efforts should both protect our children and give them hope for their future. The only way we can do this is to bring traditional values back into our families, schools, and communities.

I want to share with you the exciting work being done by a program known as Character Counts. This is a program designed to bring character-based education to our nation's

schools. The Character Counts curriculum is taught in my district in Hamilton County and has been particularly successful this past school year. Values such as honesty, courage, citizenship, responsibility, values that helped make our country great, are discussed every week. In recent years violence, crime, addiction, poverty, and the breakdown of the family have taken its toll on the health of our local communities. If we truly want to stem the tide, we must return to our core values. I particularly want to praise Senator PETE DOMENICI who has been a strong advocate for this organization in the Senate and throughout the country. I encourage all of my colleagues to follow his lead.

Throughout this week, I encourage you to join me in empowering community institutions and encouraging community renewal to help inner cities and distressed rural communities gain their share of America's property. We must acknowledge a federal role, but let's focus on our communities to give our children hope for the future. We cannot fight this battle alone.

**HONORING MEMBERS OF THE
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, initially, the American Legion Auxiliary was organized by concerned women who took on the day-to-day responsibilities of life when U.S. soldiers were sent to Europe during World War I. Aware of the plight of fatherless families and the needs of returning veterans, these women vowed to continue their supportive role when the veterans of World War I founded the American Legion in 1919.

The first words of the Auxiliary preamble are "For God and Country." Auxiliary members believe in the ideals and principles of America's founding fathers. They also pledge to foster patriotism, preserve and defend the Constitution, promote allegiance to God and Country, and uphold the basic principles of freedom of religion, freedom of expression and freedom of choice.

The organization's programs were created to provide assistance, education and financial support for veterans and their families and to benefit the community because the Auxiliary focuses on helping to create a better society, particularly for the nation's citizens of the future, our children and young people. Through its nearly 12,000 units located in every state and some foreign countries, the Auxiliary embodies the spirit of America that has prevailed through war and peace.

I would like to recognize five exceptional Auxiliary members from Florida who have over 270 years of combined service to our nation. These women are: Shirley Campbell with 52 years of service; Edna Davis with 52 years of service; Barbara Pfohl with 52 years of service; Anna Rottensterger with 52 years of service; and Bertha Wolfe with 63 years of service.

These women have spent thousands of hours volunteering at the Bay Pines VA Medical Center. Their activities include holding monthly bingo and card parties; providing homemade cookies to veterans; delivering

candy and books to veterans in the hospital; and manning the Medical Center's information desks. These Auxiliary members have also distributed flags to thousands of school children, collected food for the needy and raised funds for student scholarships.

I want to commend each of these exceptional women and all of the members of the American Legion Auxiliary for their dedicated service to America's veterans and our nation.

**THERE THEY GO AGAIN: CLINTON-GORE
"BLACKLISTING" U.S. TAX-
PAYERS, JOBS AND EMPLOYERS
AS PAYBACK TO THE AFL-CIO**

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to my colleagues' attention an old Clinton-Gore Administration initiative to endanger American jobs, and raise the government's cost of doing business. This initiative is known as the Blacklisting Regulation. This old proposal has new life because a presidential election is coming, and Vice President GORE is paying back the AFL-CIO.

In short, this proposed addition to the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) would "blacklist" employers deemed to have insufficient "responsibility" in relations with workers from being able to do business with the Federal Government. It does not make goods and services less costly to the taxpayers. It does not improve the quality of goods and services provided to the government. It does not streamline or improve the procurement process.

No, what the Clinton-Gore Blacklisting Regulation would do is hand the union bosses the sword of Damocles over every employer in America—and over every one of their workers. For under this dangerous proposal, an employer and its workers may be in full compliance with the labor laws and regulations, in full compliance with workplace safety laws, and in full compliance with all other laws and regulations relating to procurement, but in danger of a politically-driven and costly contract cutoff.

Here is how the Clinton-Gore Blacklisting Regulation would work. Say a union is waging economic terrorism on an employer, filing frivolous complaints with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Wage and Hour Division and the Office of Fair Employment Practices. Then that pile of complaints—not convictions, not findings of wrongdoing, but complaints—may identify the targeted employer as insufficiently "responsible." Federal procurement officials would ban the government from doing business with that employer. And workers would lose their jobs. They would be unemployed. Unless, of course, they knuckled under to the union bosses' economic terrorism.

As Americans, we are united in support of safe workplaces, fair treatment of employees, the right of employees to bargain collectively according to the law, and a day's pay for a day's work. Perhaps this Administration is not aware that America already has labor laws, and penalties for violating them. Perhaps this Administration is not aware that America has